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U.S. Patent No. 5,062,610, which was a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 07/413,400 and U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 07/413,050, both filed on September 28, 1989

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 2-29.

Please insert new claims 30-49 as follows:

30. A retaining wall block suitable for use in forming a mortarless retaining wall, said block comprising:

- (a) a pair of substantially parallel and planar upper and lower faces;
- (b) a front face joining the upper and lower faces;
- (c) a substantially planar rear face which is substantially perpendicular to the upper and lower faces;
- (d) a pair of substantially planar side faces joining the front and rear faces, the side faces being substantially perpendicular to the upper and lower faces, and converging as they extend from the front face toward the rear face, so that they are closer together at the rear face than they are at the front face; and
- (e) a flange extending below the lower surface of the block, said flange having a substantially planar rear surface which is substantially coplanar with the rear surface of the block, said flange further

including a front locking surface which intersects the lower surface of the block.

31. The block of claim 30 wherein the depth of the block is the distance between the midpoint of the front face and the midpoint of the rear face, wherein the depth of the flange is the distance between the front locking surface of the flange and the rear surface of the flange, and wherein the ratio of the depth of the block to the depth of the flange is at least about 6:1.

32. The block of claim *31* wherein the ratio is at least about 10:1.

33. The block of claim *31* wherein the front face of the block is substantially planar.

34. The block of claim *31* wherein the front face of the block is nonplanar.

35. The block of claim *34* wherein the front face of the block is faceted.

36. The block of claim *34* wherein the front face of the block is curved.

37. The block of claim *30*, wherein said flange spans between said side faces.

38. A retaining wall comprising stacked courses of the block of claim 30 in which the front faces of the blocks combine to form a decorative face of the retaining wall, and wherein the lower face of each block in a succeeding course is placed over the upper faces of the blocks in the next lower course, with the downwardly-extending flanges of each block in a succeeding course

being positioned immediately behind the uppermost portions of the rear faces of the blocks in the next lower course.

159. A retaining wall comprising stacked courses of the block of claim ³¹ in which the front faces of the blocks combine to form a decorative face of the retaining wall, and wherein the lower face of each block in a succeeding course is placed over the upper faces of the blocks in the next lower course, with the downwardly-extending flanges of each block in a succeeding course being positioned immediately behind the uppermost portions of the rear faces of the blocks in the next lower course.

160. A retaining wall comprising stacked courses of the block of claim ³² in which the front faces of the blocks combine to form a decorative face of the retaining wall, and wherein the lower face of each block in a succeeding course is placed over the upper faces of the blocks in the next lower course, with the downwardly-extending flanges of each block in a succeeding course being positioned immediately behind the uppermost portions of the rear faces of the blocks in the next lower course.

161. A retaining wall comprising stacked courses of the block of claim ³¹ in which the front faces of the blocks combine to form a decorative face of the retaining wall, and wherein the lower face of each block in a succeeding course is placed over the upper faces of the blocks in the next lower course, with the downwardly-extending flanges of each block in a succeeding course being positioned immediately behind the uppermost portions of the rear faces of the blocks in the next lower course.

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~~42.~~ The retaining wall of claim ~~38~~¹⁸, comprising a first course and an adjacently positioned upper second course.

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~~43.~~ The retaining wall of claim ~~42~~¹⁴, wherein said retaining wall has a set back from said first course to said second course.

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~~44.~~ The retaining wall of claim ~~43~~¹⁵, wherein said retaining wall set back ranges from about 1 to 2 inches from said first course to said second course.

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~~45.~~ The retaining wall of claim ~~42~~¹⁴, wherein said retaining wall comprises a supporting matrix positioned between said first course and said second course.

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~~46.~~ A retaining wall comprising stacked courses of the block of claim ~~25~~⁵ in which the front faces of the blocks combine to form a decorative face of the retaining wall, and wherein the lower face of each block in a succeeding course is placed over the upper faces of the blocks in the next lower course, with the downwardly-extending flanges of each block in a succeeding course being positioned immediately behind the uppermost portions of the rear faces of the blocks in the next lower course.

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~~47.~~ A retaining wall comprising stacked courses of the block of claim ~~24~~⁶ in which the front faces of the blocks combine to form a decorative face of the retaining wall, and wherein the lower face of each block in a succeeding course is placed over the upper faces of the blocks in the next lower course, with the downwardly-extending flanges of each block in a succeeding course being positioned immediately behind the uppermost portions of the rear faces of the blocks in the next lower course.